



# Explorer Program Management and Constraints

Willis Jenkins  
Explorer Program Executive  
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# Phase A Overview

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- Full Mission selected teams will conduct 11-month Phase A Concept Studies, funded up to \$1M (real year dollars)
- Missions of Opportunity (MO) selected teams will conduct 11-month Phase A Concept Studies, funded up to \$250K (real year dollars)
- Concept Study Reports (CSRs) will be due September 21, 2012
- At the end of Concept Studies NASA will conduct detailed reviews to evaluate the implementation details of the selected investigations, including any modifications of the scientific objectives, the implementation including all technical and management factors and details of the E/PO program.



# Phase A Overview

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- As a result of this Phase A evaluation, one or more Explorer Mission investigation(s) and possibly one or more MO investigation(s) may be confirmed for Phase B.



## Management and Constraints

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- Purpose of this meeting is to provide instructions for the Phase A Concept Study.
- Phase A Study deliverables:
  - **Concept Study Report** providing sufficient implementation detail and planning to allow NASA to judge probability of mission success; and
  - **Complete cost or pricing data** for Phase B shall be included with the CSR for each organization. A separate bridge phase price option shall be part of the Phase B cost or pricing data



# Management and Constraints

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- **Priced option for Bridge Phase**
  - 5 months for a Full EX Mission
  - 4 months for a Mission of Opportunity
- Each mission's Concept Study Report must conclude with a commitment by the PI for the cost, schedule, and scientific performance of the investigation.
- NASA cannot guarantee that the proposed funding profile can be accommodated within the Explorer Program's budget. A funding profile for the selected mission will be negotiated during Phase B.



# Procurement

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- Proposals must be for complete mission cycle (Phase A-Phase F).
- Solicit science proposals with sufficient implementation information to evaluate risk, expected total cost to NASA, and commitment to other programmatic goals.
- NASA may select one or more Mission investigations and one or more Missions of Opportunity and award contracts for concept studies.
- Each Phase A contract will contain a priced option for Phase B along with a Bridge Phase, to be exercised upon investigation(s) down-selected to proceed into Phase B.
- The Bridge Phase option will allow work to be continued uninterrupted under the contract after a Step-2 down selection decision is made.



# Procurement

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- The Bridge Phase for full EX mission is intended to cover a five-month period of Phase B effort to provide program continuity while negotiations are completed to modify the contract to include Phases B, C/D, and E/F.
  - The Bridge Phase for a MO mission is intended to cover a four-month period of Phase B effort to provide program continuity while negotiations are completed to modify the contract to include Phases B, C/D, and E/F.
  - The Bridge Phase option of Phase B for either EX or MO mission will be exercised only on the contract for the mission chosen during the Step-2 down selection process to continue beyond the Phase A concept study.
  - During the Bridge Phase, NASA and the continued project will negotiate and sign a contract modification necessary for the remaining portion of Phase B. Deliverables for Phase B will be negotiated during the Bridge Phase, on the basis of information provided in the Concept Study Report.
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